

The obstacles to the orderly reconstruction of Iraq, the restoration and maintenance of peace and security in the country, and the development of political, administrative, and economic institutions in Iraq constituted by the threat of attachment or other judicial process against the Development Fund for Iraq, Iraqi petroleum and petroleum products, and interests therein, and proceeds, obligations, or any financial instruments of any nature whatsoever arising from or related to the sale or marketing thereof, pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency protecting the Development Fund for Iraq, and certain other property in which Iraq has an interest, and to maintain in force the sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 20, 2004.

U.S. ARCTIC RESEARCH PLAN— MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Science:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with the provisions of the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984, as amended (15 U.S.C. 408(a)), I transmit herewith the eighth biennial revision (2004-2008) to the United States Arctic Research Plan, as prepared for the Congress and the Administration by the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 20, 2004.

A FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

MOUNT NOTRE DAME WINS STATE TITLES IN GOLF AND BASKET- BALL

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of two outstanding groups of young women from my District. Both happen to be from Mount Notre Dame High School.

This past fall the Mount Notre Dame golf team registered its second consecutive Ohio State championship with an impressive 23-stroke victory over Cincinnati rival Ursuline Academy. The Cougars dominated, finishing 16

strokes better than their previous year's State title performance.

Not to be outdone by their classmates, Mount Notre Dame's basketball team was crowned Ohio State champions with a convincing 59 to 44 win over Chaminade-Julienne. The victory topped off a perfect 28 and 0 season and propelled the team to a number two national ranking in the prestigious USA Today poll.

It gives me great pleasure to recognize the continued success of Mount Notre Dame High School, its coaches and administrators, and these young women who serve as ideal role models for future generations of high school student athletes.

Congratulations, Mount Notre Dame.

THANKING FEDERAL EXPRESS AND RICK SICILIANO, LISA DAN- IEL, DEANDRE SAM, THOMAS DALE AND A-ROCKET

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, over a year ago, the children of Houston collected books, story books, pens, paper and other supplies for the children of Afghanistan. We know that their lives have been extremely difficult, but yet the new government is seeking to provide them with an education.

I rise today to thank Rick Siciliano of Federal Express and Lisa Daniel of Federal Express, constituents A-Rocket, the company, A-Rocket, with DeAndre Sam, the owner, and Thomas Dale, for making the dreams of Afghanistan children a reality as they will help get those books from the children of Houston over to Afghanistan.

This has been an effort that has been done in love and commitment, working across not only the aisle but across the land and across the sea. The children of Afghanistan have stood up to say we want to learn, boys and girls, and I just want to give my greatest appreciation for those who will be willing to support this effort in a humanitarian way and to help the children of Houston make their dreams come true to be friends of the children of Afghanistan.

Again, to Rick Siciliano, Lisa Daniel, DeAndre Sam and Thomas Dale, a big thank you on behalf of the children of Afghanistan.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SHERIDAN GARRISON

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sheridan Garrison, whose untimely death was announced today.

In the early 1980s, Sheridan founded Arkansas Freightways, which became American Freightways, a company that serviced points in 40 States and

employed 16,000 people across the country, including 1,000 in his hometown of Harrison, Arkansas. In 2000, FedEx purchased American Freightways, making Sheridan the director.

Through the years, Sheridan always kept his focus on being a good community partner. When Arkansas Business profiled Sheridan in 1988, he described how he would like to be remembered. He said, "I want to be remembered for being a decent person, for doing what I said I would do, as someone who created an environment where people would choose to work and succeed. And for being a decent father, husband and brother, by people who love me in spite of my faults."

Mr. Speaker, Sheridan will be remembered for all of these traits and more. I ask my colleagues to keep his family in their thoughts and in their prayers.

THE FINANCIAL PENALTY RE- SULTING FROM SAME-SEX MAR- RIAGES

(Mr. BACHUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute, revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, an enormous unrevealed financial penalty will result from same-sex marriage recognition, but there has been little discussion. Why is the media looking the other way? Do seniors not have the right to know it will affect their Social Security benefits? Do taxpayers not have the right to know that it will affect their taxes, both State and Federal? Does the public not have the right to know that it means less money for roads, schools, medical research, veterans benefits? In fact, it was the Social Security issue that side-lined a similar proposal in the Canadian Parliament.

What is the cost? I include in the RECORD a GAO report outlining 1,138 Federal programs impacted if same-sex marriages are recognized in this country, an enormous price tag, hundreds of billions of dollars.

The American people have the right to know. We need to discuss this issue. We are going to give benefits to same-sex couples we do not give to Americans caring for disabled and elderly relatives. We are going to give it to same-sex couples who have no children and give them the same benefits we give married couple with several children.

We need to discuss this issue. It is going to cost billions of dollars.

U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE,

Washington, DC, January 23, 2004.

Subject: Defense of Marriage Act: Update to Prior Report
Hon. BILL FRIST,
Majority Leader,
U.S. Senate.

DEAR SENATOR FRIST: The Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) provides definitions of "marriage" and "spouse" that are to be used in construing the meaning of a federal law and, thus, affect the interpretation of a wide variety of federal laws in which marital status is a factor. In 1997, we issued a report